

59-12-107. Definitions -- Collection, remittance, and payment of tax by sellers or other persons -- Returns -- Reports -- Direct payment by purchaser of vehicle -- Other liability for collection -- Rulemaking authority -- Credits -- Treatment of bad debt -- Penalties and interest.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Ownership" means direct ownership or indirect ownership through a parent, subsidiary, or affiliate.

(b) "Related seller" means a seller that:

(i) meets one or more of the criteria described in Subsection (2)(a)(i); and

(ii) delivers tangible personal property, a service, or a product transferred electronically that is sold:

(A) by a seller that does not meet one or more of the criteria described in Subsection (2)(a)(i); and

(B) to a purchaser in the state.

(c) "Substantial ownership interest" means an ownership interest in a business entity if that ownership interest is greater than the degree of ownership of equity interest specified in 15 U.S.C. Sec. 78p, with respect to a person other than a director or an officer.

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(e), Section 59-12-107.1, or Section 59-12-123, and subject to Subsection (2)(f), each seller shall pay or collect and remit the sales and use taxes imposed by this chapter if within this state the seller:

(i) has or utilizes:

(A) an office;

(B) a distribution house;

(C) a sales house;

(D) a warehouse;

(E) a service enterprise; or

(F) a place of business similar to Subsections (2)(a)(i)(A) through (E);

(ii) maintains a stock of goods;

(iii) regularly solicits orders, regardless of whether or not the orders are accepted in the state, unless the seller's only activity in the state is:

(A) advertising; or

(B) solicitation by:

(I) direct mail;

(II) electronic mail;

(III) the Internet;

(IV) telecommunications service; or

(V) a means similar to Subsection (2)(a)(iii)(A) or (B);

(iv) regularly engages in the delivery of property in the state other than by:

(A) common carrier; or

(B) United States mail; or

(v) regularly engages in an activity directly related to the leasing or servicing of property located within the state.

(b) A seller is considered to be engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property, a service, or a product transferred electronically for use in the state, and shall pay or collect and remit the sales and use taxes imposed by this chapter if:

(i) the seller holds a substantial ownership interest in, or is owned in whole or in substantial part by, a related seller; and

(ii) (A) the seller sells the same or a substantially similar line of products as the related seller and does so under the same or a substantially similar business name; or

(B) the place of business described in Subsection (2)(a)(i) of the related seller or an in state employee of the related seller is used to advertise, promote, or facilitate sales by the seller to a purchaser.

(c) A seller that does not meet one or more of the criteria provided for in Subsection (2)(a) or is not a seller required to pay or collect and remit sales and use taxes under Subsection (2)(b):

(i) except as provided in Subsection (2)(c)(ii), may voluntarily:

(A) collect a tax on a transaction described in Subsection 59-12-103(1); and

(B) remit the tax to the commission as provided in this part; or

(ii) notwithstanding Subsection (2)(c)(i), shall collect a tax on a transaction described in Subsection 59-12-103(1) if Section 59-12-103.1 requires the seller to collect the tax.

(d) The collection and remittance of a tax under this chapter by a seller that is registered under the agreement may not be used as a factor in determining whether that seller is required by Subsection (2) to:

(i) pay a tax, fee, or charge under:

(A) Title 10, Chapter 1, Part 3, Municipal Energy Sales and Use Tax Act;

(B) Title 10, Chapter 1, Part 4, Municipal Telecommunications License Tax Act;

(C) Section 19-6-714;

(D) Section 19-6-805;

(E) Section 69-2-5;

(F) Section 69-2-5.5;

(G) Section 69-2-5.6; or

(H) this title; or

(ii) collect and remit a tax, fee, or charge under:

(A) Title 10, Chapter 1, Part 3, Municipal Energy Sales and Use Tax Act;

(B) Title 10, Chapter 1, Part 4, Municipal Telecommunications License Tax Act;

(C) Section 19-6-714;

(D) Section 19-6-805;

(E) Section 69-2-5;

(F) Section 69-2-5.5;

(G) Section 69-2-5.6; or

(H) this title.

(e) A person shall pay a use tax imposed by this chapter on a transaction described in Subsection 59-12-103(1) if:

(i) the seller did not collect a tax imposed by this chapter on the transaction; and

(ii) the person:

(A) stores the tangible personal property or product transferred electronically in the state;

(B) uses the tangible personal property or product transferred electronically in the state; or

(C) consumes the tangible personal property or product transferred

electronically in the state.

(f) The ownership of property that is located at the premises of a printer's facility with which the retailer has contracted for printing and that consists of the final printed product, property that becomes a part of the final printed product, or copy from which the printed product is produced, shall not result in the retailer being considered to have or maintain an office, distribution house, sales house, warehouse, service enterprise, or other place of business, or to maintain a stock of goods, within this state.

(3) (a) Except as provided in Section 59-12-107.1, a tax under this chapter shall be collected from a purchaser.

(b) A seller may not collect as tax an amount, without regard to fractional parts of one cent, in excess of the tax computed at the rates prescribed by this chapter.

(c) (i) Each seller shall:

(A) give the purchaser a receipt for the tax collected; or

(B) bill the tax as a separate item and declare the name of this state and the seller's sales and use tax license number on the invoice for the sale.

(ii) The receipt or invoice is prima facie evidence that the seller has collected the tax and relieves the purchaser of the liability for reporting the tax to the commission as a consumer.

(d) A seller is not required to maintain a separate account for the tax collected, but is considered to be a person charged with receipt, safekeeping, and transfer of public money.

(e) Taxes collected by a seller pursuant to this chapter shall be held in trust for the benefit of the state and for payment to the commission in the manner and at the time provided for in this chapter.

(f) If any seller, during any reporting period, collects as a tax an amount in excess of the lawful state and local percentage of total taxable sales allowed under this chapter, the seller shall remit to the commission the full amount of the tax imposed under this chapter, plus any excess.

(g) If the accounting methods regularly employed by the seller in the transaction of the seller's business are such that reports of sales made during a calendar month or quarterly period will impose unnecessary hardships, the commission may accept reports at intervals that will, in the commission's opinion, better suit the convenience of the taxpayer or seller and will not jeopardize collection of the tax.

(h) (i) For a purchase paid with specie legal tender as defined in Section 59-1-1501.1, and until such time as the commission accepts specie legal tender for the payment of a tax under this chapter, if the commission requires a seller to remit a tax under this chapter in legal tender other than specie legal tender, the seller shall state on the seller's books and records and on an invoice, bill of sale, or similar document provided to the purchaser:

(A) the purchase price in specie legal tender and in the legal tender the seller is required to remit to the commission;

(B) subject to Subsection (3)(h)(ii), the amount of tax due under this chapter in specie legal tender and in the legal tender the seller is required to remit to the commission;

(C) the tax rate under this chapter applicable to the purchase; and

(D) the date of the purchase.

(ii) (A) Subject to Subsection (3)(h)(ii)(B), for purposes of determining the amount of tax due under Subsection (3)(h)(i), a seller shall use the most recent London fixing price for the specie legal tender the purchaser paid.

(B) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission may make rules for determining the amount of tax due under Subsection (3)(h)(i) if the London fixing price is not available for a particular day.

(4) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (5) through (7) and Section 59-12-108, the sales or use tax imposed by this chapter is due and payable to the commission quarterly on or before the last day of the month next succeeding each calendar quarterly period.

(b) (i) Each seller shall, on or before the last day of the month next succeeding each calendar quarterly period, file with the commission a return for the preceding quarterly period.

(ii) The seller shall remit with the return under Subsection (4)(b)(i) the amount of the tax required under this chapter to be collected or paid for the period covered by the return.

(c) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(c), a return shall contain information and be in a form the commission prescribes by rule.

(d) (i) Subject to Subsection (4)(d)(ii), the sales tax as computed in the return shall be based on the total nonexempt sales made during the period for which the return is filed, including both cash and charge sales.

(ii) For a sale that includes the delivery or installation of tangible personal property at a location other than a seller's place of business described in Subsection (2)(a)(i), if the delivery or installation is separately stated on an invoice or receipt, a seller may compute the tax due on the sale for purposes of Subsection (4)(d)(i) based on the amount the seller receives for that sale during each period for which the seller receives payment for the sale.

(e) (i) The use tax as computed in the return shall be based on the total amount of purchases for storage, use, or other consumption in this state made during the period for which the return is filed, including both cash and charge purchases.

(ii) (A) As used in this Subsection (4)(e)(ii), "qualifying purchaser" means a purchaser who is required to remit taxes under this chapter, but is not required to remit taxes monthly in accordance with Section 59-12-108, and who converts tangible personal property into real property.

(B) Subject to Subsections (4)(e)(ii)(C) and (D), a qualifying purchaser may remit the taxes due under this chapter on tangible personal property for which the qualifying purchaser claims an exemption as allowed under Subsection 59-12-104(23) or (25) based on the period in which the qualifying purchaser receives payment, in accordance with Subsection (4)(e)(ii)(C), for the conversion of the tangible personal property into real property.

(C) A qualifying purchaser remitting taxes due under this chapter in accordance with Subsection (4)(e)(ii)(B) shall remit an amount equal to the total amount of tax due on the qualifying purchaser's purchase of the tangible personal property that was converted into real property multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the payment received in the period for the qualifying purchaser's sale of the tangible personal property that was converted into real property and the denominator of which is

the entire sales price for the qualifying purchaser's sale of the tangible personal property that was converted into real property.

(D) A qualifying purchaser may remit taxes due under this chapter in accordance with this Subsection (4)(e)(ii) only if the books and records that the qualifying purchaser keeps in the qualifying purchaser's regular course of business identify by reasonable and verifiable standards that the tangible personal property was converted into real property.

(f) (i) Subject to Subsection (4)(f)(ii) and in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission may by rule extend the time for making returns and paying the taxes.

(ii) An extension under Subsection (4)(f)(i) may not be for more than 90 days.

(g) The commission may require returns and payment of the tax to be made for other than quarterly periods if the commission considers it necessary in order to ensure the payment of the tax imposed by this chapter.

(h) (i) The commission may require a seller that files a simplified electronic return with the commission to file an additional electronic report with the commission.

(ii) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission may make rules providing:

(A) the information required to be included in the additional electronic report described in Subsection (4)(h)(i); and

(B) one or more due dates for filing the additional electronic report described in Subsection (4)(h)(i).

(5) (a) As used in this Subsection (5) and Subsection (6)(b), "remote seller" means a seller that is:

(i) registered under the agreement;

(ii) described in Subsection (2)(c); and

(iii) not a:

(A) model 1 seller;

(B) model 2 seller; or

(C) model 3 seller.

(b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(b)(ii), a tax a remote seller collects in accordance with Subsection (2)(c) is due and payable:

(A) to the commission;

(B) annually; and

(C) on or before the last day of the month immediately following the last day of each calendar year.

(ii) The commission may require that a tax a remote seller collects in accordance with Subsection (2)(c) be due and payable:

(A) to the commission; and

(B) on the last day of the month immediately following any month in which the seller accumulates a total of at least \$1,000 in agreement sales and use tax.

(c) (i) If a remote seller remits a tax to the commission in accordance with Subsection (5)(b), the remote seller shall file a return:

(A) with the commission;

(B) with respect to the tax;

(C) containing information prescribed by the commission; and

(D) on a form prescribed by the commission.

(ii) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the commission shall make rules prescribing:

(A) the information required to be contained in a return described in Subsection (5)(c)(i); and

(B) the form described in Subsection (5)(c)(i)(D).

(d) A tax a remote seller collects in accordance with this Subsection (5) shall be calculated on the basis of the total amount of taxable transactions under Subsection 59-12-103(1) the remote seller completes, including:

(i) a cash transaction; and

(ii) a charge transaction.

(6) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), a tax a seller that files a simplified electronic return collects in accordance with this chapter is due and payable:

(i) monthly on or before the last day of the month immediately following the month for which the seller collects a tax under this chapter; and

(ii) for the month for which the seller collects a tax under this chapter.

(b) A tax a remote seller that files a simplified electronic return collects in accordance with this chapter is due and payable as provided in Subsection (5).

(7) (a) On each vehicle sale made by other than a regular licensed vehicle dealer, the purchaser shall pay the sales or use tax directly to the commission if the vehicle is subject to titling or registration under the laws of this state.

(b) The commission shall collect the tax described in Subsection (7)(a) when the vehicle is titled or registered.

(8) If any sale of tangible personal property or any other taxable transaction under Subsection 59-12-103(1), is made by a wholesaler to a retailer, the wholesaler is not responsible for the collection or payment of the tax imposed on the sale and the retailer is responsible for the collection or payment of the tax imposed on the sale if:

(a) the retailer represents that the personal property is purchased by the retailer for resale; and

(b) the personal property is not subsequently resold.

(9) If any sale of property or service subject to the tax is made to a person prepaying sales or use tax in accordance with Title 63M, Chapter 5, Resource Development Act, or to a contractor or subcontractor of that person, the person to whom such payment or consideration is payable is not responsible for the collection or payment of the sales or use tax and the person prepaying the sales or use tax is responsible for the collection or payment of the sales or use tax if the person prepaying the sales or use tax represents that the amount prepaid as sales or use tax has not been fully credited against sales or use tax due and payable under the rules promulgated by the commission.

(10) (a) For purposes of this Subsection (10):

(i) Except as provided in Subsection (10)(a)(ii), "bad debt" is as defined in Section 166, Internal Revenue Code.

(ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (10)(a)(i), "bad debt" does not include:

(A) an amount included in the purchase price of tangible personal property, a product transferred electronically, or a service that is:

(I) not a transaction described in Subsection 59-12-103(1); or

- (II) exempt under Section 59-12-104;
- (B) a financing charge;
- (C) interest;
- (D) a tax imposed under this chapter on the purchase price of tangible personal property, a product transferred electronically, or a service;

(E) an uncollectible amount on tangible personal property or a product transferred electronically that:

- (I) is subject to a tax under this chapter; and
- (II) remains in the possession of a seller until the full purchase price is paid;
- (F) an expense incurred in attempting to collect any debt; or
- (G) an amount that a seller does not collect on repossessed property.

(b) (i) To the extent an amount remitted in accordance with Subsection (4)(d) later becomes bad debt, a seller may deduct the bad debt from the total amount from which a tax under this chapter is calculated on a return.

(ii) A qualifying purchaser, as defined in Subsection (4)(e)(ii)(A), may deduct from the total amount of taxes due under this chapter the amount of tax the qualifying purchaser paid on the qualifying purchaser's purchase of tangible personal property converted into real property to the extent that:

(A) tax was remitted in accordance with Subsection (4)(e) on that tangible personal property converted into real property;

(B) the qualifying purchaser's sale of that tangible personal property converted into real property later becomes bad debt; and

(C) the books and records that the qualifying purchaser keeps in the qualifying purchaser's regular course of business identify by reasonable and verifiable standards that the tangible personal property was converted into real property.

(c) A seller may file a refund claim with the commission if:

(i) the amount of bad debt for the time period described in Subsection (10)(e) exceeds the amount of the seller's sales that are subject to a tax under this chapter for that same time period; and

(ii) as provided in Section 59-1-1410.

(d) A bad debt deduction under this section may not include interest.

(e) A bad debt may be deducted under this Subsection (10) on a return for the time period during which the bad debt:

(i) is written off as uncollectible in the seller's books and records; and

(ii) would be eligible for a bad debt deduction:

(A) for federal income tax purposes; and

(B) if the seller were required to file a federal income tax return.

(f) If a seller recovers any portion of bad debt for which the seller makes a deduction or claims a refund under this Subsection (10), the seller shall report and remit a tax under this chapter:

(i) on the portion of the bad debt the seller recovers; and

(ii) on a return filed for the time period for which the portion of the bad debt is recovered.

(g) For purposes of reporting a recovery of a portion of bad debt under Subsection (10)(f), a seller shall apply amounts received on the bad debt in the following order:

- (i) in a proportional amount:
 - (A) to the purchase price of the tangible personal property, product transferred electronically, or service; and
 - (B) to the tax due under this chapter on the tangible personal property, product transferred electronically, or service; and
- (ii) to:
 - (A) interest charges;
 - (B) service charges; and
 - (C) other charges.
- (h) A seller's certified service provider may make a deduction or claim a refund for bad debt on behalf of the seller:
 - (i) in accordance with this Subsection (10); and
 - (ii) if the certified service provider credits or refunds the entire amount of the bad debt deduction or refund to the seller.
- (i) A seller may allocate bad debt among the states that are members of the agreement if the seller's books and records support that allocation.
- (11) (a) A seller may not, with intent to evade any tax, fail to timely remit the full amount of tax required by this chapter.
- (b) A violation of this section is punishable as provided in Section 59-1-401.
- (c) Each person who fails to pay any tax to the state or any amount of tax required to be paid to the state, except amounts determined to be due by the commission under Chapter 1, Part 14, Assessment, Collections, and Refunds Act, or Section 59-12-111, within the time required by this chapter, or who fails to file any return as required by this chapter, shall pay, in addition to the tax, penalties and interest as provided in Sections 59-1-401 and 59-1-402.
- (d) For purposes of prosecution under this section, each quarterly tax period in which a seller, with intent to evade any tax, collects a tax and fails to timely remit the full amount of the tax required to be remitted, constitutes a separate offense.

Amended by Chapter 178, 2012 General Session
Amended by Chapter 312, 2012 General Session
Amended by Chapter 399, 2012 General Session